



# SOUNDS OF SUMMER

## Collaboration contributes to Stampede's success

**Rachel Spicer**  
editor-in-chief

Four days, 20 performers and over 150,000 attendees; this was the scene at the 16th annual Country Stampede. The headliner, Brad Paisley, blew some audience members away with his performance Saturday night.

"The main reason I went was to see Blake Shelton," said Shelly Bentz, attendee from Olathe. "But I was surprised at how much I really enjoyed Brad Paisley. He put

on a great show."

Main acts included Eric Church, Lady Antebellum, Joe Nichols and Sawyer Brown.

Many artists return to Stampede to play several times. Since the first Stampede in 1996 when Tim McGraw headlined, hundreds of artists have taken the stage, not all of whom were from the country genre. Rock 'n' roll bands such as

Styx, REO Speedwagon and Steve Miller Band have also performed.

"We always try to have a really strong lineup," said Wayne Rouse, president and general manager of Stampede. "Ever since the very first Stampede."

Rouse teams up with fellow founders Gil Cunningham, Liz Cunningham and Jeff Copper to ensure fans have the opportunity

to see the artists they want. Wayne pitched the idea of bringing a country music festival to Kansas after seeing Country Thunder in Wisconsin. The group of friends contacted Becky Blake at the Kansas Department of Commerce to help with raising the funds.

"A friend of mine said, 'You better have half a million dollars because that's what you're going to lose

your first year,'" Rouse said. Blake had the money ready two days after she saw the business plan in January. Eight months later the first Stampede took place. An estimated 35,000 fans attended throughout the event. Rouse and his colleagues were very pleased with its success.

"All of us had really unique skills," Rouse said.

**STAMPEDE | pg. 6**

## Fort Riley soldier dies from IED

**Karen Ingram**  
news editor, opinion editor

A Fort Riley soldier died from wounds sustained from an improvised explosive device on June 24, according to a press release.

Spc. Nicholas Hensley was severely injured in the June 15 attack in Afghanistan and was transported to Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany. Hensley's family was at his bedside when he died nine days later.

Hensley, 28, of Prattville, Ala., was a cavalry scout. He was assigned to 4th Squadron, 4th Cavalry, 1st Heavy Brigade Combat Team. He enlisted in the military in 2001 and joined the active component of the U.S. Army in November 2005. This was Hensley's third combat deployment. Previously he had deployed from Fort Hood, Texas, to Iraq for seven months from May to November 2006 and 15 months from June 2008 to September 2009. Hensley deployed to Afghanistan with the 1st Brigade in February in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Hensley's awards include the Purple Heart, two Army Commendation Medals, Army Achievement Medal, Air Force Achievement Medal and the Combat Action Badge.



Hensley

photos by Lauren Gocken  
Collegian

**Top:** The crowd stands silhouetted against the bright screens of Brad Paisley's set on June 25.

**Right:** Blake Shelton performs at Stampede on June 25. **Far Right:** Lady Antebellum headlines on June 24 at the Tuttle Creek River Pond Area.



## Alumnus earns All-American sportscaster status

**Nathan Finster**  
staff writer

John Kurtz has always loved sports.

"As a kid, I didn't watch movies or TV shows much. I was playing sports, or watching ESPN and K-State highlights," Kurtz said. "Every year, I'd come out here from Johnson County and watch K-State games."

Kurtz, newly graduated from K-State, has been awarded All-American status as a sportscaster by the Sportscasters Talent Agency of America. Kurtz came in at number two in the nation for the Jim Nantz Award.

"Being an All-American ranks you as one of the top six collegiate sportscasters in the nation," said Jon Chelesnik, CEO and founder of the STAA and K-State alumnus. "When we narrow it down to the finalists, I review their demos and tapes. Then, we finally have a panel of industry experts decide on the rankings."

The top-rated All-American award recipient receives the Jim Nantz Award.

"When I originally designed this award, I was thinking of a sportscaster that embodies this company's values," Chelesnik said. "Jim Nantz is a five-time award-winning sportscaster most well known for his work with CBS; I couldn't think of anyone better. He was gracious enough to be a part of this distinction."

STAA rated Kurtz, who now works full time at KMAN-AM



Lauren Gocken | Collegian

**John Kurtz**, K-State alumnus, ranked among the top 6 sportscasters in the nation.

1350 in Manhattan, amongst the top six finalists, which landed him the All-American status.

In high school, Kurtz was able to incorporate broadcasting into his love of sports.

"I was able to record and broadcast some of the high school games and K-State highlights while I was in Blue Valley," Kurtz said. "I really enjoyed it."

When he arrived at K-State, Kurtz pursued his passions even further. One of his friends worked at KSDB-FM 91.9.

"He got me involved and the rest is history," Kurtz said.

Since 2008, Kurtz has been

one of the most prominent voices in Manhattan sportscasting. Kurtz began as an intern at Wildcat 91.9 his sophomore year. His hard work and passion propelled him into a part-time position with the station in 2009.

He became an executive staff member, working as a sports talk reporter and eventually achieved the position of sports director. He was in charge of a staff of 20 people, as well as working with the sports information directors at the university. As sports director, Kurtz also hosted a weekly talk show and provided play-by-play coverage for K-State foot-

ball, basketball and baseball.

Kurtz also worked with KMAN, providing even more sportscasting and news coverage of local events. Outside of Manhattan, Kurtz served as a sportscaster in Salina, Junction City and Kansas City, providing sports talk commentary for area high school games and some collegiate sporting events.

Kurtz said the height of his sportscasting experience was K-State's basketball season two years ago.

"As the sports director, I got to do the Big 12 Tournament in Kansas City," Kurtz said. "And

during March Madness, I got to cover the first two games in Oklahoma City. It was a blast being in the middle of the action."

Kurtz's dedication to sports coverage caught the attention of the STAA.

"John Kurtz really impressed me with his demos," Chelesnik said. "He does great sportscasting."

As an All-American sportscaster, Kurtz has a prestigious addition to his resume that is likely to impress future employers. Many employers in the sports broadcasting industry use information from the STAA to seek out the talented individuals they need.

"When I'm in need of a fill-in talent for one of our many schools, I use the STAA Talent Search," said Tom Boman, broadcast manager for Learfield Sports. "In a matter of minutes, I can search for talent in the area I need and hear their demos. It makes the process very easy."

Ken Schamborn, general manager of 1510 ESPN in Great Bend, agreed.

"I know when I need quality talent that I can turn to STAA," Schamborn said.

Kurtz hopes his All-American status may one day help him land his dream job.

"I want to be the voice of a Division I school," Kurtz said. "Right now I do sports talk locally, but I hope to one day do play-by-play reporting. That's something only the top sportscasters can do full time."

## 4 Tuttle Creek Lake



Rachel Spicer

**Rachel Spicer**  
editor-in-chief

*Editor's Note: This is the fourth installment of the 8 Wonders of Manhattan running in the Collegian over the summer. A new wonder will be on each front page.*

Damming the Big Blue River was first mentioned in 1928. However, funding for it did not begin until 1944 after the Flood Control Act of 1938 authorized construction of Tuttle Creek Dam and Reservoir.

In July 1951, the worst documented flood in both magnitude and damage along the Kansas and lower Missouri rivers occurred. Over \$725,000,000 of damages were recorded in the Kansas River basin from 22,000 residences, 10,000 farms and 3,000 businesses.

Congress had a "dry dam" restriction in place allowing dams to be built for retaining water only in times of heavy rain and not for recreational activities. However, a drought throughout 1952 and 1953 along with the want for recreational areas prompted the restriction to be removed in 1957.

Ground broke on Oct. 7, 1952 on the construction of the dam, but was suspended for two years due to lack of

**WONDERS | pg. 2**



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4 Existed

7 Deep-sea predator

8 Move to one side

10 Adversary

11 The external world

13 News crew member

16 Work with

17 Judicial apparel

18 "— was saying, ..."

19 Sheepish comments

20 A long time

21 Choir's rendition

23 Cheney's successor

25 Salamander

26 Sell

27 Raw rocks

28 Irving Berlin's "Blue —"

30 Afternoon social

33 13-Across' offering

36 "A Streetcar Named Desire" role

37 Bracelet adornment

38 Short fishing line

39 Slight amounts

40 James Bond, e.g.

41 Pigpen

DOWN

1 Mino-taur's home

2 Pinnacle

3 Pertaining to a city

4 7-Across, e.g.

5 Jam ingredients?

6 A size too small, maybe

7 Individuals

8 Uppity sorts

9 Battlefield prioritization

10 Ostrich's cousin

12 Ruhr Valley city

14 Wander

15 "— the season ..."

19 Cudgel

20 Toss in

21 Shimon of Israel

22 Workout garb

23 Milwaukee product

24 Entomologist's subjects

25 Promptly

26 Spreading fast on YouTube

28 Drag (Var.)

29 "An American in Paris" star

30 Syco-phantic

31 Blunders

32 \$ dispenser

34 Saw-bucks

35 Terrific, in rapspeak

Solution time: 21 mins.

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Yesterday's answer 6-29

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6-29

CRYPTOQUIP

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PKINAHAT-KH-IXDDZHT.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: NOTABLE CARTOON SUPERHERO WHO RESCUED PEOPLE WHILE DRESSED IN A BEDTIME GOWN: NIGHTIE MOUSE.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: B equals L

Events Schedule: June 29 - July 5

29

Wednesday

June High Ropes Challenge (\$18) 5:30 p.m.

1

Friday

Arts in the Park Concert Presents The Wailin' Jennys Larry Norvell Band Shell

4

Monday

35th Annual Coors Freedom Run 10K and 5K Junction City, Kan.

Sunset Zoo (\$4) 4th of July

Thunder Over Manhattan CICO Park 6 p.m.

Logan's Run

By Erin Logan



Children put on original play in Nichols Theatre

Nathan Finster  
staff writer

Manhattan's Make Believe Theater filled Nichols Theatre with an innovative, imaginative production on Friday. "The Jungle Family" was brought to life by the collaboration of the young actors and the assistance of student staff.

Make Believe Theater is a summer theater enrichment camp for 6- to 8-year-olds. The staff picks a challenging but age-appropriate play for the children to perform, such as "101 Dalmatians." This year, the program's director decided to take a more ambitious approach.

"After about a week of improv games, I asked the kids what they wanted to do," said Annie Goodson, director of Make Believe Theater and senior in secondary education. "They told me what they wanted the play to be about, what they wanted to be and how many lines they wanted."

Goodson wrote the entire script and found music and costumes based on the input of the children.

"This would be hard for high schoolers to do," she told the audience on opening night.

The result was "The Jungle

Family," a tale of how the oddballs at the zoo run away to find acceptance, only to find that they can be accepted as they are both in the wild and at home.

Every day, each animal family reports to Wise Elephant. Each family has one member that is different, such as a wolf who can't howl or a spotted zebra. The animals that are different get tired of being picked on and run away with the assistance of a sympathetic zookeeper. The next morning, the zoo animals wake up and find their friends missing. Each family comes to Wise Elephant saying they miss their siblings. Wise Elephant responds, "you should have thought about that and treated them better and maybe they wouldn't have ran away."

Meanwhile, the group of misfits are trying to find a home in the jungle. They come across wild families of tigers, koalas and gorillas, but must flee each encounter when the feared She-Lion appears. Finally, She-Lion confesses that she is lonely and wants to be friends, so the adventurers return to the zoo with their new friends and find a warm reception. Even She-Lion

PLAY | pg. 5

WONDERS | Tuttle Creek

Continued from page 1

appropriations. The dam was completed July 1, 1962 and affected the towns of Stockdale, Randolph, Winkler, Cleburne, Irving, Blue Rapids, Shroyer, Garrison, Barrett and Bigelow, Kan. Some were completely inundated and have parks named in their memory.

The dam was put to the test on July 23, 1993 when the lake crested at an elevation of 1,137.77 feet, 63 feet above normal. This was the only time in the lake's history that

the spillway gates released water. The water was released at a peak of 60,000 cubic feet per second and was audible over half a mile away. It transformed the once fairly smooth spillway channel into a canyon.

The dam's most recent restoration project was completed in October. The object was to place a series of 351 concrete walls beneath the slope of the dam in order to support it during the maximum probable earthquake. The project was completed two years ahead of schedule and \$75 million under budget.

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What is your favorite Pixar movie and why?

“Toy Story 3: It was a great ending to my favorite childhood movie.”

Kraig Thompson  
junior, industrial engineering

“Toy Story” because it was a childhood favorite.”

Jeffrey Haaga  
sophomore, political science

“Despicable Me.” It’s so hilarious and cute.”

Sarah Caldwell  
senior, family studies and human services

“Wall-E.” It has an actual point to it.”

Ben Parsons  
junior, construction science

“Toy Story,” the original. You’ve never seen anything like it before.”

Jack Sparks  
senior, geography

“Up.” Cute old man and the bird.”

Aaron Johnson  
senior, landscape architecture

# VROOM VROOM

## Lamborghini’s new addition takes the bull by the steering wheel

Rudy Date  
staff writer

Lamborghini. Just saying that conjures up images of insanely pricey supercars with rugged good looks, scissor doors, bullet-like top speeds, face melting acceleration and sounds that can bring men to tears.

So when Lamborghini announced that they were unveiling a new model at the 81st Geneva International Motor Show this past March at the Palexpo Convention Center in Geneva, Switzerland, everybody was anxious to see if the newcomer would retain Lamborghini’s incredibly fast standards.

Enter the Lambo’s new flagship hypercar, the Lamborghini Aventador LP700-4. According to Lamborghini, “Aventador” was the name given to a bull that won a trophy for its courage in its battles, something a newbie in the quickly advancing world of super sports cars definitely needs. However, yet again and unsurprisingly so, Lamborghini doesn’t disappoint. Well-equipped with Lamborghini’s new V12 engine and single-clutch gearbox, this car has all the necessary equipment to stay ahead of the game.

Pretend, for a second, that you need get to somewhere and you need to get

there fast. That shouldn’t be a problem for this car. Top speed — 217 mph. Pretend that, to get where you need to go, you need to get on the highway. However, you’ve come to a complete stop and need to catch up to the rest of the traffic that’s cruising along at the highway’s 62 mph (100km/hr) speed limit. Give yourself 2.9 seconds, because that’s all you’ll need.

A large part of the attraction is Lambo’s new 48-valve 6.5 liter V12 engine that can crank out nearly 700 ponies at its base at 8,250 revolutions per minute (rpm), hence the ‘700’ part of the LP700-4. The LP part, then, stands for longitudinale posteriore, which means the engine is longitudinally positioned behind the driver. The ‘4’ in the name could stand for a few different things. The simplest is to indicate four-wheel drive, brought to us by a Haldex 4WD electronic control system.

This time around, the gearbox is a different animal altogether in relation to most high-end sports cars out there today. Lamborghini’s robotized Independent Shift Rod (ISR) gearbox is a lighter, more compact ‘magic black box,’ allowing for faster-than-lightning upshifts and downshifts. What sets it apart from most other supercars, however, is that

it is a single-clutch, which is achieved through a synchronization of two shifting rods. While one rod is disengaging the gear, another rod is simultaneously engaging the next gear, which means the car doesn’t have to go through to neutral, thus making gear changes about 140 percent faster. All-in-all, the gearbox has four shifting rods, another possible reason the number four is included in LP700-4.

Now, everybody knows Lamborghinis go fast in a straight line. The goal with this newest model, however, was to get it to go just as nicely from side to side as it goes forward. In fact, to prove their point, the Aventador’s press launch was not done at a straight test strip, an airstrip, or even a speedway oval. Instead, Lamborghini took the Aventador to the Autodromo di Vallelunga track just outside of Rome, which is 10 solid miles of your steering wheel not being straight. Lamborghini’s experts achieve this goal through a number of advancements and progressions, both technological and material.

The biggest catalyst of this wonderful effect is the Formula 1-style suspension found in the Aventador. With its Haldex four-wheel drive system electronically



courtesy photo

controlling pushrod style shocks and springs found in the front and in the back, the Aventador does a great job of combating lateral forces. In addition, the Aventador displays a boldly designed carbon-fiber monocoque structure, one of many diets the Aventador is put on to bring its final weight to approximately 3,800 lbs, which is still a few hundred pounds less than its predecessor, the Murcielago.

The new Lambo is definitely dream-car material, but to make it a reality, you need around \$380,000 and the patience to wait a year or two. Lamborghini planned to make around 500 of these beasts a year, but have already sold around 750.

It comes as no shock that the Aventador is not gas-friendly, with its numbers teetering incredibly close to the single-digit range, and EPA estimated 10/14 mpg

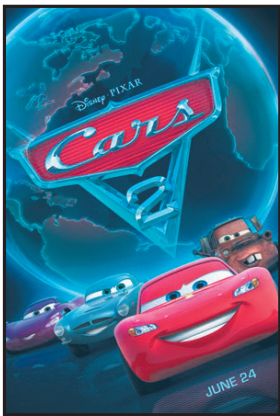
(city/highway). However, anyone who can muster up enough money to pay for or at least finance a brand new Lamborghini shouldn’t have to worry about paying for gas. Although this may all seem incredibly pricey, (nearly three times as much as the Corvette ZR1 or a Maserati Quattroporte and a small single-family home more than an Aston Martin) think of it more as a budget-friendly Bugatti Veyron.

## Voice actors underused, animation high point in Pixar sequel

“Cars 2”

★★★★☆

Movie review by Joshua Madden



courtesy photo

I should preface this review by admitting that I have only seen parts of the first “Cars” film. I admit this upfront because I think it’s important

to note that “Cars 2” is a completely standalone film — I never once felt confused as to what was going on during the events of the film, which may not say much for me since “Cars 2” is, at the end of the day, still more of a children’s film than anything else.

The film follows race car Lightning McQueen (voiced by Owen Wilson) and his best friend/tow-truck Mater (voiced by Larry the Cable Guy) as they initially set out to travel the world as part of the World Grand Prix, which is sponsored by oil tycoon Miles Axlerod (voiced by Eddie Izzard). While McQueen largely ends up focusing on his rivalry with Francesco Bernoulli (voiced by John Turturro), Mater winds up getting himself involved with spies Holley Shiftwell (voiced by Emily Mortimer) and Finn McMissile (voiced by Michael Caine).

It says something about the

voice cast that, without even naming off the whole plot or cast list, I’ve already listed off names like Owen Wilson, John Turturro and Michael Caine. The problem was that because of the size of the cast, everyone ended up coming across as somewhat underused. The two notable exceptions to this are Larry the Cable Guy, who is definitely overused in the film, and Michael Caine, who is the only one that seems to strike a good balance.

This may seem like a weird thing to criticize in the film, but when the characters themselves are supposed to double as jokes — Finn McMissile, for example, is a not so thinly-veiled Austin Powers-like parody of James Bond — it can get a little tiresome to see them on screen for too long, which is definitely what happens with Mater. The character himself is likable enough and Larry the Cable Guy actually does

a pretty terrific job of voicing him, but one can’t help but feel like he should probably be more of a supporting character instead of a leading one.

That’s not to say that “Cars 2” is without its charms because, in many ways, it’s actually a very good film. The scenes focusing on Finn McMissile, particularly the opening sequence, really seem to work well and are pretty spectacular to watch. For an animated comedy about cars, there are an awful lot of action scenes that actually increase the overall quality of the film. It feels weird to say that one of the strongest parts of “Cars 2” is its emphasis on action sequences, but that’s definitely the case.

At the end of the day however, the most well-done aspect of the film is the animation. I saw the film in 3D and I think this is one of the first films where the 3D seemed to actu-

ally add to the movie. There seems to be something about watching animation in 3D that works better than live-action. With the exception of “Jackass 3D,” one of the best films I’ve seen in 3D would have to be “Despicable Me.” While “Cars 2” doesn’t reach the level that “Despicable Me” did in terms of 3D integration, it was certainly close, which it deserves credit for.

Even without focusing on the 3D aspect of the film, it’s hard to walk away from “Cars 2” thinking about anything other than that the animation is simply beautiful. The level of detail is astounding — the racing scenes in particular seem to offer a level of visual thrills that certainly rivals some well-made live-action films. The best comparison I can make, as weird as it sounds, is probably to “Iron Man” in that the way the reflections look off the metal-

lic characters — Iron Man in “Iron Man” or Lightning McQueen in “Cars 2” — is simply awe-striking and makes you think, even if it is just for a few seconds, that these things could perhaps be real.

“Cars 2” is a wonderfully animated and fun film, but it’s disappointing in that it simply doesn’t have the level of depth that we’ve come to expect from Pixar. While it is probably not the best animated film of the year — in my opinion, “Cars 2” failed to surpass “Rango” in terms of overall quality — it is worth seeing. While a three-star review would signify that “Cars 2” was watchable, the quality of the animation knocks it up to four stars. If you’re going with children, there are certainly worse films to sit through.

Joshua Madden is a senior in political science and history. Please send comments to [edge@spub.ksu.edu](mailto:edge@spub.ksu.edu).

### Entertainment Schedule: June 29 - July 5

29 Wednesday	30 Thursday	1 Friday	2 Saturday	5 Tuesday
<b>Theaters</b> Transformers: Dark of the Moon		<b>Theaters</b> Larry Crowne Monte Carlo  <b>Video Games</b> Resident Evil: The Mercenaries 3D	<b>50th Anniversary of Ernest Hemingway's untimely demise</b>	<b>Music</b> Basement 'I Wish I Could Stay Here' Brian Eno 'Drums Between the Bells' Digitalism 'I Love You, Dude' Little Drage 'Ritual Union' Sebastian 'Total'  <b>DVD</b> 13 Assassins Hobo With A Shotgun  <b>Video Games</b> Earth Defense Force: Insect Armageddon

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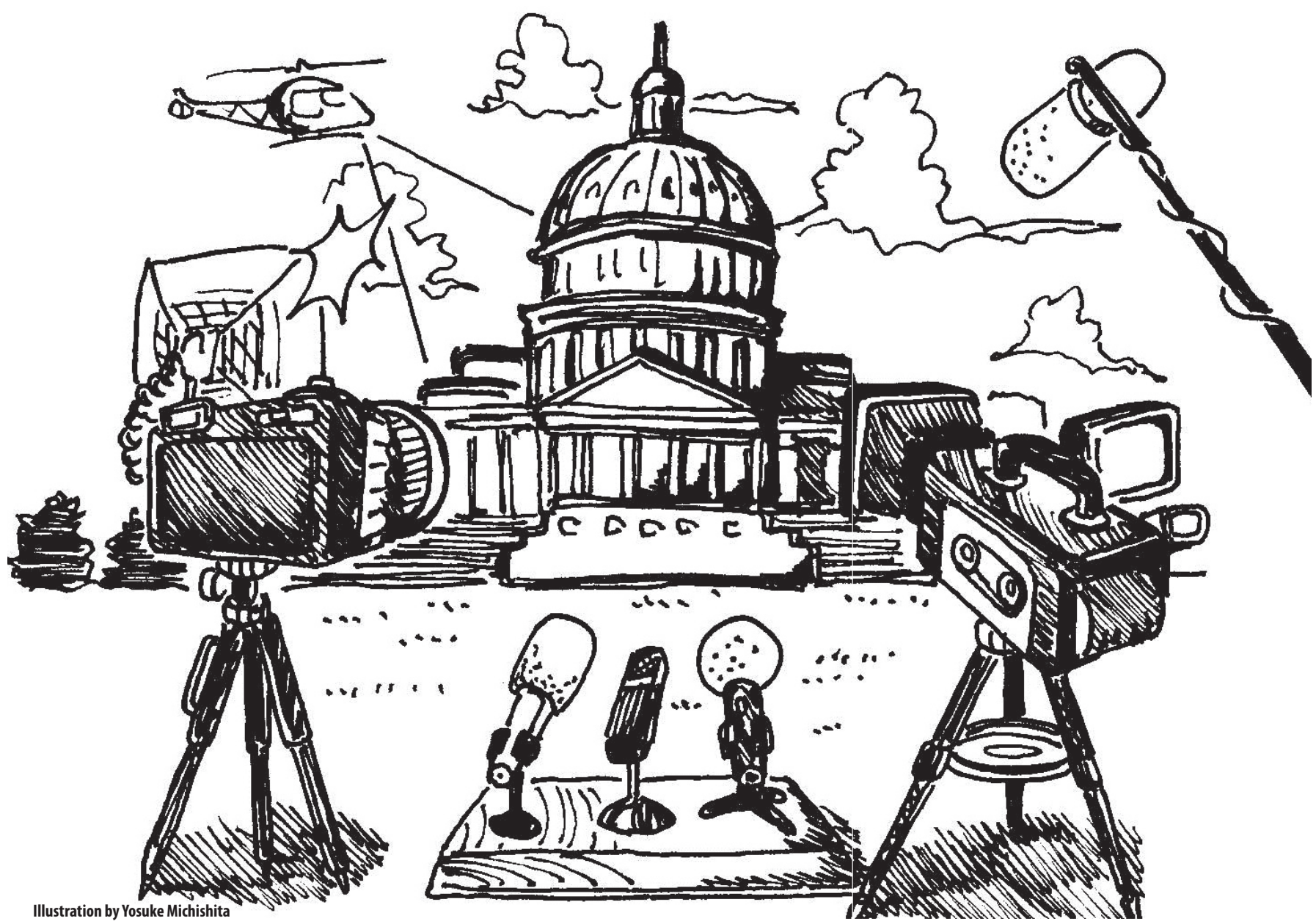
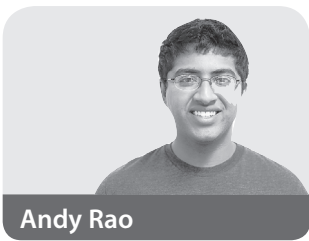


Illustration by Yosuke Michishita

## Freedom of press necessary to monitor government officials



Andy Rao

The last couple of months have been a whirlwind for the national media. From Anthony Weiner's sexting, to the atrocities revealed during the ongoing Casey Anthony trial, to the release of 24,000 emails written by former Alaskan governor Sarah Palin, the news stream has been overflowing. This has led many to the conclusion that the media often oversteps legal and ethical bounds in order to get some juicy gossip.

According to a study cited in a 2005 USA Today article entitled "U.S. students say press freedoms go too far," one in three high school students in the United States believe that the press

should be more restricted, and 36 percent of students believe the government should approve newspaper articles before they are published.

The media may have its vices, but adding more restrictions to the press and requiring the government to approve coverage would be catastrophic to the entire foundation of the media in many ways.

When the nation was founded, too much government control was one of the main fears of the citizens. After being subjected to countless regulations and taxes imposed by King George III, Americans wanted a safeguard against excessive governmental interference in private life. Freedom of press, one of the rights guaranteed in the First Amendment, ensured that people may publish their opinions and distribute the media as they please.

But the importance of the media goes much further than just being a right that people may use if they wish. Newspaper, radio, magazines, movies, music

and television shows are the average Joe's method of retaining information to make crucial decisions. It fulfills the public's right to be informed.

For example, during the 1990s, former President Bill Clinton was involved in an extramarital affair with Monica Lewinsky that led to his eventual impeachment. Every headline in the country was about the president's infidelity and almost every form of media was involved in the coverage of one of the greatest scandals in U.S. history.

As voters and taxpayers, people should have the right to know the actions and characters of their representatives and information about public activities should be made accessible. According to the Human Rights Education Associates, the United Nations adopted this philosophy in its first session in 1946 by passing resolution 59 (I) which states, "Freedom of information is a fundamental human right and...the touchstone of all the freedoms to which the United

Nations is consecrated."

The media is the only stream of information that can connect to a large number of people and therefore should be under few restrictions in order to fulfill its function.

Many people who are under the illusion that the press goes too far fail to realize the importance of the digging and the prying those reporters do to inform the public. If reporters did not have First Amendment protections and the government had to approve public news before it was published, there would be no accountability for the government. The public would know only what the government wanted us to know, a dangerous situation that can be seen doing its damage in countries like North Korea, China and Iran. As a watchdog against the government, the media is a form of protection against the abuse of power and influence.

There are already restrictions that prevent the press from committing ethical crimes, such as

anti-slander and anti-libel laws, which ensure that the truth is published. Privacy is protected, however if there are newsworthy incidents of which the public has the right to be informed, the press should be able to publish without fear of restrictions.

Though readers get exasperated from reading about the countless lies and scandals, the media's power is the only way to hold public figures accountable for their actions. Without loosely-restricted press, we would not be able to counterbalance the enormous and sometimes unjustified amount of influence that prominent celebrities have.

We should feel blessed that America has rights that are enjoyed by so few in the world and realize that putting too many restrictions on the media is dangerous to democracy. In this case, no news is definitely not good news.

Andy Rao is a sophomore in finance and accounting. Please send comments to [opinion@spub.ksu.edu](mailto:opinion@spub.ksu.edu)

## An inside look into a quitter's head: trials faced after kicking the habit



Karen Ingram

I quit smoking just after St. Patrick's Day, not long after writing my smoker's manifesto, "An inside look into a smoker's head," on Feb. 2. I won't lie, there have been a couple of occasions where I bummed one from somebody, usually when I was drunk. Fortunately, I am too broke to buy a pack and fall completely off the wagon, so I have forgiven myself for these little transgressions. I think I'm doing pretty good for someone who quit cold turkey, notoriously one of the most difficult ways to quit.

According to the WebMD article "Quitting Smoking Tips for Women," women often have a more difficult time quitting than men, although the reasons are uncertain. The article cites a December 1999 study which found that men tend to be more physically driven with their addiction to nicotine while women tend to be triggered more by the social activity of smoking with friends.

I'd have to say both are true for me. I miss cigarettes whenever I'm stressed, or when I have a cup of coffee

or a couple of beers, because nicotine marries so well with caffeine and alcohol. But I most certainly miss the camaraderie with fellow smokers, huddled together in bad weather, chatting amicably. I have met some truly awesome people thanks to smoking. It's a great social network I'm no longer a part of and I regret that a little bit.

However, it should be noted that social networks can work for you when quitting, too. My mother had great success with the website [quitnet.com](http://quitnet.com), which allows people to communicate with others trying to quit, celebrate milestones and console one another when you slip up. Some of the free features include a journal and a ticker that shows you how much money you've saved by quitting.

Quitting smoking is as much of a love/hate relationship as smoking is. I am pleased that I can breathe better and I'm glad that I stink less. When I do slip and take a drag, I note how nasty it tastes. But there are weird side effects that come with quitting smoking that I'm not so sure I like. Most people gain weight because they start snacking more. I've never been much of a snacker. I know that's hard to believe because of my hefty frame, but it's true. What I have noticed, however, is that I get cravings for sugary stuff and chocolate.

I don't even like chocolate. I don't dislike it, but I don't normally eat it and I certainly



Illustration by Erin Logan

never buy it, not even when Aunt Flo comes to visit. As an ex-smoker, however, I'm a chocolate fiend. I'll be at the grocery store and suddenly go "Whoa, Häagen-Dazs is on sale. That looks so good." I'm not the only one.

I have met other former smokers that crave sugar and chocolate. There isn't a lot of literature on the Internet that explains why this is and I don't believe [eHow.com](http://eHow.com)'s claim that it goes away after two months. The last time I

had quit smoking and was nicotine-free for two years, I still had cravings. One former smoker I know who quit more than 20 years ago still buys a cosmic brownie every day on his way home from work. I can only assume this has

something to do with the way your brain is rewired when you are addicted to something but, again, I don't know for sure because it doesn't seem as though any clinical research has been done on the subject.

I am determined to remain off of cigarettes for good this time. I'm past the physical withdrawals and the habit has faded from my memory enough that I no longer need to chew Stride gum every couple of hours. The worst is over, but the hardest part is just beginning; ignoring the voice, the little whisper in the back of my mind that says I've been good for so long, just one little cigarette won't hurt. Most days, I don't hear it, but it pops up every once in a while to taunt me and it's every bit as convincing as it was when I was still a smoker. Addiction never goes away. Once you've had it, you are stuck with it for the rest of your life.

For those of you who have never taken up smoking or become addicted to any substance in your life, congratulations. I hope you never do. It's a bad monkey to have on your back. For those of you with that monkey, I don't care if you plan to quit or not. It is certainly your right to do either and I will not fault you, whatever your decision. Just don't listen to me if I ask you for one. It's not me asking.

Karen Ingram is a junior in English. Please send comments to [opinion@spub.ksu.edu](mailto:opinion@spub.ksu.edu)







# STAMPEDE | Staff works to keep campers safe

Continued from page 1

“And it blended itself into a unique partnership.”

Over the years many workers have continuously returned, turning Stampede into somewhat of a family reunion, Rouse said. Workers such as Kurt Moldrup, festival security manager, and Bill Schuck, lead supervisor for security staff, have been employed every year of Stampede.

“I like to work with people,” Schuck said. “You’re going to have all walks of life here. Some of it’s not so pleasant, but that’s the nature of the job.”

Setup began for this year’s Stampede on June 19 with painting road marks, establishing barriers and creating on-site offices. Wednesday night, a security meeting was held to go over rules, ground maps and conduct. Duties were roughly split up between fire departments from both Manhattan and Pottawatomie County who handled first aid, multiple police departments who dealt with criminal matters and writing citations and the event security team who helped with patrons’ problems and summoned the sheriff’s department for any criminal matters.

“We’re here to make sure all patrons have a good time,” Schuck said.

The most common offenses seemed to be minors in possession, attendees bringing glass into the campgrounds and single day or VIP ticket holders trying to get into the campground area. Minors under the age of 18 were generally escorted off the premises and released into a family member’s custody. All known offenses were documented and at the discretion of the security staff, unruly visitors can be banned for the next year or up to life.

“I think this was brought here as a family function,” Schuck said. “But a lot of people have come out here to party.”

The Big Blue River used to meander through the campground area before being dammed up to create Tuttle Creek Lake. It naturally separated Pottawatomie and Riley counties. To prevent confusion, it was established that anyone who received a citation would be processed through the Pottawatomie County court system.

“The Pottawatomie courts actually reserve two or three days just for Stampede violations,” Schuck said. “Majority of patrons are safe and enjoy

the event without any trouble however.”

Schuck said a few years ago the drainage ditches were filled with rainwater and patrons were skiing down them behind a jeep. As a rain-or-shine event, security measures are put into place in the event of severe thunderstorms. An on-site meteorologist keeps track of any weather threats. This year the weather mostly cooperated, but the bottom end of a storm hit Stampede around 5:30 a.m. Saturday bringing with it thunder, lightning and strong winds.

Some campers woke up to take down canopies and secure their belongings; a few even went back to town with the threat of a strong storm. However, the only notable damage was that a tree directly next to the main stage was struck by lightning.

“Safety comes first,” Rouse said. “Whenever there is lightning, no one is allowed near the stage. It did damage some of our equipment, but everyone was OK.”

With the combined effort, Stampede has become an internationally-known event. Karen Hibbard, director of the Manhattan Convention and Visitors Bureau, met two young women who traveled from England to see Lady Antebellum, Brad Paisley and the many other artists. Attendees are encouraged to take surveys to keep track of how far people travel, what they enjoyed, what they believe could be improved and which artists they would like to see in the future.

“Each year we get better, it’s a long learning process basically,” Rouse said. “It makes it all worthwhile when you see people having fun.”

photos by Lauren Gocken  
Collegian

**Top:** During the humid afternoon heat, **Alyssa Schorg**, 6, of Remsen, Iowa, takes a break from the heat on an inflatable water slide at Country Stampede on June 24. **Middle Left:** The attendant starts the Flier at Stampede on June 24. The Flier spun riders through the air in circles. **Middle Right:** **Brad Paisley** plays on the runway in the middle of the VIP crowd at Stampede on June 25. Stampede was a stop on Paisley’s H2O II tour with Blake Shelton, who played earlier in the night. **Bottom:** **Joe Nichols** performs in the afternoon at Stampede on June 24.



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